If you deny it,let the danger light
Vpon your Charter,and your Cities freedome.
You'l aske me why,I rather chuſe to have
A weight of Carrion fleſh,then to receive
Three thouſand Ducats: Ile not anſwer that,
But ſay it is my humour,is it anſwered?
What if my houſe be troubled with a Rat,
And I be pleaſd to give ten thouſand Ducats
To have it baind? what,are you anſwered yet?
Some men there are love not a gaping Pig:
Some that are mad if they behold a Cat;
And others when the Bagpipe ſings ith noſe,
Cannot contain their Vrine for affection.
Maſters of paſſion ſwayes it to the mood
Of what it likes or loathes,now for your anſwer:
As there is no firme reaſon to be rendred
Why he cannot abide a gaping pig:
Why he a harmeleſſe neceſſary Cat:
Why he a woollen bagpipe: but of force
Muſt yeeld to ſuch inevitable ſhame,
As to offend himſelfe being offended:
So can I give no reaſon,nor I will not,
More then a lodg'd hate, and a certain loathing
I beare *Anthonio*,that I follow thus
A loſing ſute againſt him: are you anſwered?

Baſſ. This is no anſwer thou unfeeling man,
To excuſe the current of thy cruelty.

Iew. I am not bound to pleaſe thee with my anſwers.

Baſſ Do all men kill the things they do not love?

Iew. Hates any man the thing he would not kill?

Baſſ Every offence is not a hate at firſt?

Iew. What wouldſt thou have a Serpent ſting thee twice?

Anth. I pray you think you queſtion with the *Iew*,
You may as well go ſtand upon the Beach,
And bid the maine flood bate his uſuall height,
You may as well uſe queſtion with the Woolfe,
Why he hath made the Ewe bleat for the Lambe:
You may as well forbid the mountaine of Pines

To wag their high tops,and t
When they are fretten with t
You may as well do any thing
As ſeeke to ſoften that then w
His Jewiſh heart? therefore I
Make no more offers,uſe no fa
But with all briefe and plaine
Let me have judgement,and t

Baſſ. For thy three thouſan

Iew. If every Ducat in ſix
Were in ſix parts;and every pa
I would not draw them,I wo

Duke. How ſhalt thou hope

Iew. What judgement ſhall
You have among you many a p
Which like your Aſſes,and yo
You uſe in abject and in ſlav ſh
Becauſe you bought them,ſha
Let them be free,marry them
Why ſweat they under burth
Be made as ſoft as yours,and le
Be ſeaſon'd with ſuch viands:y
The ſlaves are ours,ſo do I anſ
The pound of fleſh which I d
Is deerely bought,as mine,an
If you deny me,fie upon your
There is no force in the Decre
I ſtand for judgement,anſwer

Duk. Upon my power I m
Unleſſe *Bellario* a learned Doc
Whom I have ſent for to dete
Come here to day?

Sal. My Lord,here ſtayes
A meſſenger with letters from
New come from *Padua*.

Duke. Bring us the Lette

Baſſ. Good cheere *Anthon*
The Jew ſhall have my fleſh,b

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Merchant of Venice* (STC 22298) LONDON, 1637 UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH